

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/575,134

Applicant(s)

SILVERBROOK ET AL.

Examiner

Twyler M. Lamb

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 May 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the use of the phraseology "means". The applicant may also want to consider condensing the abstract to one paragraph since Abstracts are typically limited to one paragraph. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-11 and 15-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sarbadhikari et al. (Sarbadhikari) (US 5,477,264).

With regard to claim 1, Sarbadhikari discloses an effects module (Figure 2) comprising: a body (Figure 2, electronic still camera); an image processor (processor 22) within said body that applies one or more effects to a stored image (col 6, lines 27-66; col 4, line 57 – col 5, line 10; col 7, lines 31-50); at least one connection means (standard electrical computer interface cable 38; interface 26) incorporated in said body for connecting said effects module to a bus providing power (col 11, lines 23-27) and data between said effects module and said stored image (col 6, line 37-40).

With regards to claim 2, Sarbadhikari also discloses having two or more connection means (standard electrical computer interface cable 38; interface 26)

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incorporated in said body, at least one connection means connecting said effects module to at least said stored image (col 6, line 37-40).

With regard to claim 3, Sarbadhikari also discloses having two or more connection means (standard electrical computer interface cable 38; interface 26) incorporated in said body including a first connection means connectable to said stored image and a second connection means connectable to further modules in a stackable manner (col 11, lines 23-42).

With regard to claim 4, Sarbadhikari also discloses having two or more connection means (standard electrical computer interface cable 38; interface 26) incorporated in said body, said two or more connection means providing through connection to said stored image and one or more further modules of a compact printer system (col 11, lines 23-42).

With regard to claim 5, Sarbadhikari also discloses wherein the image processor includes means (interface 26) for retrieving the stored image from a first image store means (buffer 18) for applying said is one or more effects to said stored image, and means for transferring a resultant image to a second image store (col 6, lines 37-40).

With regard to claim 6, Sarbadhikari also discloses further comprising a LCD (operation display 30) within said body, said LCD being connected to said image processor and providing information about said effects (col 7, lines 16-30).

With regard to claim 7, Sarbadhikari also discloses wherein said LCD is capable of displaying a plurality of icons indicative of effect type, effect number and effect application status (col 7, lines 31-50) .

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With regard to claim 8, Sarbadhikari also discloses further comprising a CHOOSE button (user inputs section 21) to cycle through a plurality of effect types (col 7, lines 44-50).

With regard to claim 9, Sarbadhikari also discloses further comprising a SELECT button (user inputs section 21) to increment or decrement an effect number (col 7, lines 44-50).

With regard to claim 10, Sarbadhikari also discloses further comprising an APPLY button (user inputs section 21) to apply a selected effect to said stored image (col 7, lines 44-50).

With regard to claim 11, Sarbadhikari also discloses wherein said effects are borders, clip-art, captions, warps, color changes, and painting styles (col 7, lines 40-44).

With regard to claim 15, Sarbadhikari also discloses wherein said bus (interface 26) enables said effects module to be controlled externally allowing said one or more effects to be applied to external stored images (col 6, lines 37-40).

With regard to claims 16 and 19, Sarbadhikari discloses an effects module (Figure 2) of said compact printer system (Figure 11) comprising: a body (Figure 2, electronic still camera); an image processor (processor 22) within said body that applies one or more effects to an image stored in a further module of said compact printer system (col 6, lines 27-66; col 4, line 57 – col 5, line 10; col 7, lines 31-50); at least one connection means (standard electrical computer interface cable 38; interface 26) incorporated in said body for connecting said effects module to a bus providing power

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(col 11, lines 23-27) and data between said effects module and said further module (col 6, line 37-40).

With regard to claims 17 and 20, Sarbadhikari also discloses wherein said further module is a printer module (printer 6).

With regard to claims 18 and 21, Sarbadhikari also discloses wherein said further module is a memory module (memory card 24) (col 6, lines 40-45).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarbadhikari et al. (Sarbadhikari) (US 5,477,264) in view of Goodwin (US 5,586,207).

With regard to claim 12, Sarbadhikari differs from claim 12, in that he does not teach said at least one connection means comprises a male bayonet fitting providing physical connection between said effects module and a module storing said stored image.

Goodwin discloses an assembly for packaging opto-electronic devices and for coupling devices that include at least one connection means comprises a male bayonet fitting (male bayonet fitting 538) providing physical connection between said effects module and a module storing said stored image (col 4, lines 11-19; col 5, lines 27-43).

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Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Sarbadhikari to include at least one connection means comprises a male bayonet fitting providing physical connection between said effects module and a module storing said stored image as taught by Goodwin. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Sarbadhikari by the teaching of Goodwin to transfer an optical image from one surface to another through a latched connection as taught by Goodwin in col 4, lines 11-19; col 5, lines 27-43.

With regard to claim 13, Sarbadhikari differs from claim 13, in that he does not teach said at least one connection means comprises a female bayonet fitting providing physical connection between said effects module and a module storing said stored image.

Goodwin discloses an assembly for packaging opto-electronic devices and for coupling devices that include at least one connection means comprises a female bayonet fitting (female bayonet fitting 545) providing physical connection between said effects module and a module storing said stored image (col 4, lines 11-19; col 5, lines 44-59).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Sarbadhikari to include at least one connection means comprises a male bayonet fitting providing physical connection between said effects module and a module storing said stored image as taught by Goodwin. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have

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modified Sarbadhikari by the teaching of Goodwin to transfer an optical image from one surface to another through a latched connection as taught by Goodwin in col 4, lines 11-19; col 5, lines 44-59.

6. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarbadhikari et al. (Sarbadhikari) (US 5,477,264) in view of Wang et al. (Wang) (US 6,529,287).

With regard to claim 14, Sarbadhikari differs from claim 13, in that he does not teach said bus is a Serial Bus.

Wang discloses an image processing system that includes said bus is a Serial Bus (universal serial bus 805) (col 6, lines 32-33).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Sarbadhikari to said bus is a Serial Bus as taught by Wang. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Sarbadhikari by the teaching of Wang to provide a connection between devices particularly a printing device as taught by Wang in col 6, lines 32-33).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Twyler Lamb whose telephone number is 703 - 308-8823. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (8:30-5:00).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L Coles can be reached on 703-308-4712. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-6036 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

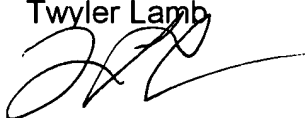
(703) 872-9314

(for informal or draft communications, such as proposed amendments to be discussed at an interview; please label such communications "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

or hand-carried to:

Crystal Park Two
2121 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA.
Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

Twyler Lamb



July 28, 2003